

# [EXTERNAL] FW: Coalition Letter to Ambassador Lighthizer Urging Strong Protections of IP in NAFTA Renegotiations

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**From:** Michi Iljazi <michi@conservative.org>  
**To:** Michi Iljazi <michi@conservative.org>  
**Date:** Mon, 18 Dec 2017 11:05:16 -0500  
**Attachments:** NAFTA IP Coalition Letter Final.pdf (1.67 MB)

Good morning,

Please find attached the updated version of this letter, please refer to this version. The link is updated to reflect this version.

Thank you.

--Michi

**Michi Iljazi**  
**Director of Government Affairs**  
**American Conservative Union**  
**201 N. Union Street, Suite 370**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**  
**202-347-9388 Ext. (b) (6)**  
[Michi@conservative.org](mailto:Michi@conservative.org)  
[www.conservative.org](http://www.conservative.org)

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**From:** Michi Iljazi  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:29 AM  
**To:** Michi Iljazi  
**Subject:** Coalition Letter to Ambassador Lighthizer Urging Strong Protections of IP in NAFTA Renegotiations

Good morning,

Please find attached, and linked [here](#), a letter from a diverse coalition of organizations who support Free Trade and strong Intellectual Property protections.

The letter urges that the United States ensure that any renegotiated NAFTA deal include strong protections for IP.

Please feel free to contact the American Conservative Union if you have any questions, thank you.

--Michi

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
Executive Office of the President  
600 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

"Intellectual property is a driving force in today's global economy of constant innovation. It is the wellspring of American economic growth and job creation. With the rise of the digital economy, it has become even more critical that we protect intellectual property rights and preserve freedom of contract rather than create regulatory barriers to creativity, growth, and innovation. ...We call for strong action by Congress and a new Republican president to enforce intellectual property laws against all infringers, whether foreign or domestic."<sup>[1]</sup>

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and the millions of Americans we represent, we agree with President Trump, who affirmed these words when he accepted his party's nomination for the Presidency of the United States. Therefore, we urge you to strengthen intellectual property rights for the Digital Age in a renegotiated North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)—because property rights, especially Intellectual Property (IP) rights, are the foundation of a strong digital economy.

Free trade is critical to economic growth and keeping the United States competitive around the world. America's creative and innovative industries, which rely on strong IP rights, are essential to that growth. The U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office found that IP-intensive industries contributed \$6.6 trillion to the U.S. economy in 2014, comprising 38.2 percent of GDP. These industries support 45.5 million jobs, account for \$842 billion in merchandise exports, and generate \$81 billion in service exports.

NAFTA was adopted in 1998, when the commercial internet was in its infancy. Since that time, the world has changed dramatically. In 1998, only 1.2 percent of the Mexican population had access to the internet, compared to 36 percent today. Over the same period, Canada went from less than 40 percent to 88 percent of the population having internet access. But arm-in-arm with the legitimate internet's

growth, online theft of IP has also exploded.<sup>[2]</sup> According to one estimate, IP theft could be costing the US economy as much as \$600 billion per year, in large part due to the rise of online theft.<sup>[3]</sup>

One of the laws intended to protect IP online is the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 (DMCA). However, according to the Federalist Society Regulatory Transparency Project, “The law has failed to live up to its promise and objective, shifting the burden entirely to copyright owners while encouraging online intermediaries to do the bare minimum required to avoid liability, providing broad protection to bad actors for whom protection was never intended.”<sup>[4]</sup>

The weak DMCA “notice and takedown” process chills creativity and innovation, a problem that will only grow as bad actors more completely exploit the holes in current system. Given legitimate concerns about the law’s efficacy here at home, we urge you to reject the suggestion that our trading partners adopt it under NAFTA.

We also urge you to reject calls for NAFTA to include “users’ rights,” which was manifested in the Obama-era concept of copyright “balance.” In practice, promoting “balance” means encouraging our trading partners to adopt broad exceptions and limitations to copyright, such as fair use, which would allow foreign companies to profit by using U.S. copyrighted works without permission or compensation.

Credible legal<sup>[5]</sup> and economic<sup>[6]</sup> scholarship has demonstrated that exceptions and limitations to copyright should be contracting, not expanding, in the digital age. Moreover, the notion of copyright “balance” favored by dominant internet platforms does not translate to other countries. American fair use is bounded by nearly two centuries of jurisprudence and well-established legal norms. Without this rich history, simply exporting fair use or “balance” will give foreign companies a free ride on American creativity and innovation.

Alternatively, NAFTA should include high-level principles such as the globally-recognized Berne three-step-test,<sup>[7]</sup> and notions of secondary liability that allow NAFTA signatories the flexibility to adopt effective online enforcement regimes that reflect the challenges of their respective markets.<sup>[8]</sup>

As a diverse coalition of organizations, we strongly believe in free trade. But trade is not free when it is distorted by theft. We urge you to use these NAFTA renegotiations to better protect intellectual property and fight to make sure that America is on the winning side of trade. America’s creators and innovators deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Matt Schlapp, Chairman  
American Conservative Union

Daniel Schneider, Executive Director  
American Conservative Union Foundation

Grover Norquist, President  
Americans for Tax Reform



Tom Schatz, President  
Citizens Against Government Waste

Phil Kerpen, President  
American Commitment

Steve Pociask, President  
American Consumer Institute

Lisa Nelson, CEO  
American Legislative Exchange Council

Ashley Varner, Executive Director  
ALEC Action

Jerry Rogers, President  
Capitol Allies

Jeff Mazzella, President  
Center for Individual Freedom

James Edwards, Executive Director  
Conservatives for Property Rights

Matthew Kandrach, President  
Consumer Action for a Strong Economy

Katie McAuliffe, Executive Director  
Digital Liberty

Hance Haney, Senior Fellow  
Discovery Institute

George Landrith, President  
Frontiers of Freedom

Andrew Langer, President  
Institute for Liberty

Tom Giovanetti, President  
Institute for Policy Innovation

Seton Motley, President  
Less Government

Colin A. Hanna, President  
Let Freedom Ring



Bartlett Cleland, Managing Director  
Madery Bridge Assoc. LLC

Lorenzo Montanari, Executive Director  
Property Rights Alliance

Karen Kerrigan, President & CEO  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council

David Williams, President  
Taxpayers Protection Alliance

Sara Croom, Executive Director  
Trade Alliance to Promote Prosperity

C. Preston Noell III, President  
Tradition, Family, Property, Inc.

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[1] Republican Platform 2016, July 18, 2016, p. 15, >[https://prod-cdn-static.gop.com/media/documents/DRAFT\\_12\\_FINAL\[1\]-ben\\_1468872234.pdf](https://prod-cdn-static.gop.com/media/documents/DRAFT_12_FINAL[1]-ben_1468872234.pdf).

[2] Price, David, "Sizing the Piracy Universe," September 2013, ><https://www.netnames.com/assets/shared/whitepaper/pdf/netnames-sizing-piracy-universe-FULLreport-sept2013.pdf>.

[3] The National Bureau of Asian Research, "The Theft of American Intellectual Property: Reassessments of the Challenge and United States Policy," The Commission on the Theft of American Intellectual Property, February 2017, >[http://www.ipcommission.org/report/IP\\_Commission\\_Report\\_Update\\_2017.pdf](http://www.ipcommission.org/report/IP_Commission_Report_Update_2017.pdf).

[4] A. Abbott, et. al., "Creativity and Innovation Unchained: Why Copyright Law Must be Updated for the Digital Age by Simplifying It," The Regulatory Transparency Project of the Federalist Society, October 27, 2017, ><https://regproject.org/wp-content/uploads/RTP-Intellectual-Property-Working-Group-Paper-Copyright.pdf>.

[5] Geoffrey A. Mann and Julian Morris, "Dangerous Exception: The Detrimental Effects of Including "Fair Use" Copyright Exceptions in Free Trade Agreements," International Center for Law & Economics, March 2015, >[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/274389548\\_Dangerous\\_Exception\\_The\\_Detrimental\\_Effects\\_of\\_Including\\_Fair\\_Use\\_Copyright\\_Exceptions\\_in\\_Free\\_Trade\\_Agreements](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/274389548_Dangerous_Exception_The_Detrimental_Effects_of_Including_Fair_Use_Copyright_Exceptions_in_Free_Trade_Agreements).

[6] T. Randolph Beard, Ph.D., George S. Ford, Ph.D., and Michael Stern, Ph.D., "Fair Use in the Digital Age," Phoenix Center for Advanced Legal & Economic Public Policy Studies, Policy Paper No. 51, September 2016, ><http://phoenix-center.org/pcpp/PCPP51Final.pdf>.

[7] "Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, of September 9, 1886," World Intellectual Property Organization, >[http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/text.jsp?file\\_id=283698](http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/text.jsp?file_id=283698).

[8] "Comments on Negotiating Objectives Regarding Modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico," The Copyright Alliance, June 2017, ><http://copyrightalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/CA-USTR-NAFTA-FINAL.pdf>.

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<sup>[1]</sup> Republican Platform 2016, July 18, 2016, p. 15, [https://prod-cdn-static.gop.com/media/documents/DRAFT\\_12\\_FINAL<\[1\]-ben\\_1468872234.pdf](https://prod-cdn-static.gop.com/media/documents/DRAFT_12_FINAL<[1]-ben_1468872234.pdf).

<sup>[2]</sup> Price, David, "Sizing the Piracy Universe," September 2013, <https://www.netnames.com/assets/shared/whitepaper/pdf/netnames-sizing-piracy-universe-FULLreport-sept2013.pdf>.

<sup>[3]</sup> The National Bureau of Asian Research, "The Theft of American Intellectual Property: Reassessments of the Challenge and United States Policy," The Commission on the Theft of American Intellectual Property, February 2017, [http://www.ipcommission.org/report/IP\\_Commission\\_Report\\_Update\\_2017.pdf](http://www.ipcommission.org/report/IP_Commission_Report_Update_2017.pdf).

<sup>[4]</sup> A. Abbott, et. al., "Creativity and Innovation Unchained: Why Copyright Law Must be Updated for the Digital Age by Simplifying It," The Regulatory Transparency Project of the Federalist Society, October 27, 2017, <https://regproject.org/wp-content/uploads/RTP-Intellectual-Property-Working-Group-Paper-Copyright.pdf>.

<sup>[5]</sup> Geoffrey A. Mann and Julian Morris, "Dangerous Exception: The Detrimental Effects of Including "Fair Use" Copyright Exceptions in Free Trade Agreements," International Center for Law & Economics, March 2015, [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/274389548\\_Dangerous\\_Exception\\_The\\_Detrimental\\_Effects\\_of\\_Including\\_Fair\\_Use\\_Copyright\\_Exceptions\\_in\\_Free\\_Trade\\_Agreements](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/274389548_Dangerous_Exception_The_Detrimental_Effects_of_Including_Fair_Use_Copyright_Exceptions_in_Free_Trade_Agreements).

<sup>[6]</sup> T. Randolph Beard, Ph.D., George S. Ford, Ph.D., and Michael Stern, Ph.D., "Fair Use in the Digital Age," Phoenix Center for Advanced Legal & Economic Public Policy Studies, Policy Paper No. 51, September 2016, <http://phoenix-center.org/pcpp/PCPP51Final.pdf>.

<sup>[7]</sup> "Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, of September 9, 1886," World Intellectual Property Organization, [http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/text.jsp?file\\_id=283698](http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/text.jsp?file_id=283698).

<sup>[8]</sup> "Comments on Negotiating Objectives Regarding Modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico," The Copyright Alliance, June 2017, <http://copyrightalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/CA-USTR-NAFTA-FINAL.pdf>.



December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
Executive Office of the President  
600 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

“Intellectual property is a driving force in today’s global economy of constant innovation. It is the wellspring of American economic growth and job creation. With the rise of the digital economy, it has become even more critical that we protect intellectual property rights and preserve freedom of contract rather than create regulatory barriers to creativity, growth, and innovation. ...We call for strong action by Congress and a new Republican president to enforce intellectual property laws against all infringers, whether foreign or domestic.”

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and the millions of Americans we represent, we agree with President Trump, who affirmed these words when he accepted his party’s nomination for the Presidency of the United States. Therefore, we urge you to strengthen intellectual property rights for the Digital Age in a renegotiated North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)—because property rights, especially Intellectual Property (IP) rights, are the foundation of a strong digital economy.

Free trade is critical to economic growth and keeping the United States competitive around the world. America’s creative and innovative industries, which rely on strong IP rights, are essential to that growth. The U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office found that IP-intensive industries contributed \$6.6 trillion to the U.S. economy in 2014, comprising 38.2 percent of GDP. These industries support 45.5 million jobs, account for \$842 billion in merchandise exports, and generate \$81 billion in service exports.

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One of the laws intended to protect IP online is the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 (DMCA). However, according to the Federalist Society Regulatory Transparency Project, “The law has failed to live up to its promise and objective, shifting the burden entirely to copyright owners while encouraging online intermediaries to do the bare minimum required to avoid liability, providing broad protection to bad actors for whom protection was never intended.”

The weak DMCA “notice and takedown” process chills creativity and innovation, a problem that will only grow as bad actors more completely exploit the holes in current system. Given



legitimate concerns about the law's efficacy here at home, we urge you to reject the suggestion that our trading partners adopt it under NAFTA.

We also urge you to reject calls for NAFTA to include "users' rights," which was manifested in the Obama-era concept of copyright "balance." In practice, promoting "balance" means encouraging our trading partners to adopt broad exceptions and limitations to copyright, such as fair use, which would allow foreign companies to profit by using U.S. copyrighted works without permission or compensation.

Credible legal and economic scholarship has demonstrated that exceptions and limitations to copyright should be contracting, not expanding, in the digital age. Moreover, the notion of copyright "balance" favored by dominant internet platforms does not translate to other countries. American fair use is bounded by nearly two centuries of jurisprudence and well-established legal norms. Without this rich history, simply exporting fair use or "balance" will give foreign companies a free ride on American creativity and innovation.

Alternatively, NAFTA should include high-level principles such as the globally-recognized Berne three-step-test, and notions of secondary liability that allow NAFTA signatories the flexibility to adopt effective online enforcement regimes that reflect the challenges of their respective markets.

As a diverse coalition of organizations, we strongly believe in free trade. But trade is not free when it is distorted by theft. We urge you to use these NAFTA renegotiations to better protect intellectual property and fight to make sure that America is on the winning side of trade.

America's creators and innovators deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,



Matt Schlapp, Chairman  
American Conservative Union



Daniel Schneider, Executive Director  
American Conservative Union Foundation



Grover Norquist, President  
Americans for Tax Reform



Tom Schatz, President  
Citizens Against Government Waste



Phil Kerpen, President  
American Commitment



Steve Pociask, President  
American Consumer Institute



Lisa Nelson, CEO  
American Legislative Exchange Council



Ashley Varner, Executive Director  
ALEC Action



Jerry Rogers, President  
Capitol Allies



Jeff Mazzella, President  
Center for Individual Freedom



James Edwards, Executive Director  
Conservatives for Property Rights



Matthew Kandrach, President  
Consumer Action for a Strong Economy



Katie McAuliffe, Executive Director  
Digital Liberty



Hance Haney, Senior Fellow  
Discovery Institute



George Landrith, President  
Frontiers of Freedom



Andrew Langer, President  
Institute for Liberty



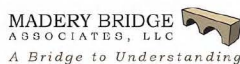
Tom Giovanetti, President  
Institute for Policy Innovation



Seton Motley, President  
Less Government



Colin A. Hanna, President  
Let Freedom Ring



Bartlett Cleland, Managing Director  
Madery Bridge Assoc. LLC



Lorenzo Montanari, Executive Director  
Property Rights Alliance



Karen Kerrigan, President & CEO  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council



David Williams, President  
Taxpayers Protection Alliance



Sara Croom, Executive Director  
Trade Alliance to Promote Prosperity



C. Preston Noell III, President  
Tradition, Family, Property, Inc.

## [EXTERNAL] Mtg Btwn Amb. (ret.) Charles Rivkin, MPAA & Mr. Lighthizer

---

**From:** "Golden, Jennifer" (b) (6) @mpaa.org>  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** "Golden, Jennifer" (b) (6) @mpaa.org>  
**Date:** Tue, 23 Jan 2018 09:29:47 -0500

Dear Ms. Bacak,

I've been passed your contact information in order to arrange a meeting between Ambassador (ret.) Charles Rivkin and Mr. Lighthizer. Amb. Rivkin is in town from now until 2/13 (with the exception 2/7 & 2/8) and is back on 3/12 for extended period. I'm happy to shuffle around anything I can on our schedule to accommodate Mr. Lighthizer's busy schedule. If it's easier to work this out over the phone happy to chat, I've included my cell number below as well.

All the Best,

**Jennifer Golden**  
**Assistant to Mr. Charles Rivkin, Chairman and CEO**  
**Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA)**  
**1301 K Street, NW - Suite 900E**  
**Washington, DC 20005**  
**(b) (6) @mpaa.org**  
**Office: +1-202-378-9139**  
**Mobile: (b) (6)**

---

**From:** MacKinnon, Gail  
**Sent:** Monday, January 22, 2018 5:23 PM  
**To:** Golden, Jennifer (b) (6) @mpaa.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: MPAA CEO Charles Rivkin

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Matt Schlapp <[mschlapp@covestrategies.com](mailto:mschlapp@covestrategies.com)>  
**Date:** January 22, 2018 at 5:13:46 PM EST  
**To:** Stephen Replogle <[sreplogle@covestrategies.com](mailto:sreplogle@covestrategies.com)>, Gail MacKinnon (b) (6) @mpaa.org>  
**Subject:** Re: MPAA CEO Charles Rivkin



Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2018, at 4:39 PM, Stephen Replogle <[sreplogle@covestrategies.com](mailto:sreplogle@covestrategies.com)> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Young, Stewart B. EOP/USTR" <[Stewart.B.Young@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Stewart.B.Young@ustr.eop.gov)>  
**Date:** January 22, 2018 at 4:30:19 PM EST  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <[Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov)>  
**Cc:** 'Stephen Replogle' <[sreplogle@covestrategies.com](mailto:sreplogle@covestrategies.com)>  
**Subject:** MPAA CEO Charles Rivkin

Abby –

The Ambassador would like to sit down with MPAA's new CEO.

I'm connecting you directly with Stephen to coordinate timing – they can be flexible on date if needed.

Thanks!

## [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting MPAA CEO

---

**From:** "Golden, Jennifer" (b) (6) @mpaa.org>  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov>, Stephen Replogle <sreplogle@covestrategies.com>  
**Cc:** "Schlapp, Matt" <mschlapp@covestrategies.com>  
**Date:** Fri, 26 Jan 2018 16:18:51 -0500

Thanks,

Confirmed.

Jennifer Golden  
202-378-9139

---

**From:** Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR [mailto:Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 3:26 PM  
**To:** Golden, Jennifer (b) (6) @mpaa.org>; Stephen Replogle <sreplogle@covestrategies.com>  
**Cc:** Schlapp, Matt <mschlapp@covestrategies.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting MPAA CEO

2 pm on 2/6

Our address is 600 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

Let me know who is coming

---

**From:** Golden, Jennifer [mailto:(b) (6) @mpaa.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 3:22 PM  
**To:** Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR <Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov>; Stephen Replogle <sreplogle@covestrategies.com>  
**Cc:** Schlapp, Matt <mschlapp@covestrategies.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Meeting MPAA CEO

Hi Abby,

Week of 2/5 he's traveling and has some speaking engagements. Other than that we can move anything on his schedule on 2/5 and 2/9. Here's everything we can make work.

2/5 – anytime

2/6 – anytime up until 5pm

2/8 – anytime from 9am on  
2/9 – 8am-1:30 and 4:00-5:30

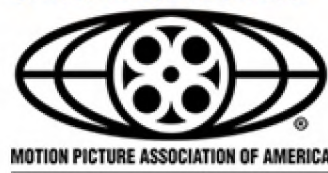
**Jennifer Golden**

Assistant to Mr. Charles Rivkin, Chairman and CEO  
Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA)

1301 K Street, NW - Suite 900E  
Washington, DC 20005

(b) (6) @mpaa.org

Office: +1-202-378-9139



---

**From:** Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR [<mailto:Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 2:38 PM

**To:** Stephen Replogle <[sreplogle@covestrategies.com](mailto:sreplogle@covestrategies.com)>

**Cc:** Golden, Jennifer (b) (6) @mpaa.org; Schlapp, Matt <[mschlapp@covestrategies.com](mailto:mschlapp@covestrategies.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Meeting MPAA CEO

What does it look like the week of 2/5?

---

**From:** Stephen Replogle [<mailto:sreplogle@covestrategies.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 1:13 PM

**To:** Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR <[Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov)>

**Cc:** (b) (6) @mpaa.org; Matt Schlapp <[mschlapp@covestrategies.com](mailto:mschlapp@covestrategies.com)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Meeting MPAA CEO

Hello Abby - hope all is well! I wanted to connect you with Jennifer Golden at MPAA (cced), who can help with scheduling on the MPAA side for the meeting between the Ambassador and MPAA CEO Charles Rivkin. Let me know if I can do anything more to help.

Thanks!

Stephen Replogle

Principal

Cove Strategies

202 (b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone



## [EXTERNAL] Economic Forum

---

**From:** Matt Schlapp <mschlapp@conservative.org>  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** Carly Conley <cconley@conservative.org>, Megan Schray <mschray@conservative.org>  
**Date:** Wed, 29 Aug 2018 12:23:16 -0400

---

Abigail,

Can you please pass this along to Amb. Lighthizer? We would love to have him participate in an Economic Forum we are hosting next month.

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Amb. Lighthizer,

I'm sure you know that ACU holds lots of events/meetings in addition to CPAC, a couple dozen across the country every year. We want to hold a forum on the Hill about how economic analysis should play a leading role in driving policy. We want to include economists from the Administration as well as agency heads who rely on their economists. Obviously, the Obama administration was terrible; the Trump Administration is doing incredible work in this space.

Because of your leadership, we hope you would be able to participate. We are looking to hold this forum in late September, before the Kavanaugh vote and before Congress adjourns for the elections. If you are interested in learning more, I'd like to schedule a call to discuss what dates/times would work best for you. Let us know. Megan can help schedule a call.

Matt

## [EXTERNAL] Invitation to J-CPAC in Tokyo

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**From:** Matt Schlapp <mschlapp@conservative.org>  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** Daniel Schneider <dschneider@conservative.org>, akfstrategies@gmail.com  
**Date:** Tue, 04 Sep 2018 18:02:04 -0400  
**Attachments:** J-CPAC2018 Invitation - USTR.pdf (207.28 kB)

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Abigail,

Could you please forward the attached invitation to Amb. Lighthizer? In addition to our economic forum we are hosting, we also would like to invite him to participate at J-CPAC in Tokyo in November.

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Amb. Lighthizer,

Last year, ACU and our partner in Tokyo, the Japanese Conservative Union (JCU), co-hosted the first-ever Japanese CPAC (J-CPAC). It was such a great success, we're teaming up again this year on November 17 & 18 in Tokyo. This is a non-political 501(c)(3) event that includes other federal officials. We would like to invite Chairman Royce to participate in this event. Please see the attached invitation.

I've cc'd ACU Executive Director Dan Schneider and Angela Flood, who represents JCU here and is working with us on the event.

Thank you,

Matt



THE  
AMERICAN  
CONSERVATIVE  
UNION  
FOUNDATION

Jikido "Jay" Aeiba  
Chairman  
Japanese Conservative Union  
Shinagawa Intercity Tower A  
28th Floor, 2-15-1 Konan  
Minato-ku, Tokyo  
108-6028 JAPAN  
+81 3-6717-4447  
[info@conservative.or.jp](mailto:info@conservative.or.jp)

August 16, 2018

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17th Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20508

Matt Schlapp  
Chairman  
ACU Foundation  
201 N. Union Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(202) 347-9388  
[ACU@conservative.org](mailto:ACU@conservative.org)

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

**On November 17-18, 2018, the Japanese Conservative Union (JCU) and the American Conservative Union Foundation (ACUF) will co-host the second annual Japanese Conservative Political Action Conference (J-CPAC) in Tokyo.**

(ACUF's participation in this event is consistent with its 501(c)(3) charter as an educational foundation.)

More than 500 people attended last year's inaugural J-CPAC, which included panelists and participants from nine countries, and over 20 media outlets from Japan, the U.S., and South Korea.

Japan continues to play a crucial role as the foundation of stability in Asia, and it is imperative that both Japan and the United States have strong economies and appropriate defense capabilities, particularly to counterbalance China's aggression.

J-CPAC 2018 will explore subjects including trade, security on the Korean peninsula, blockchain and cryptocurrency, family prosperity, and the 2018 U.S. mid-term elections, along with other topics of interest to Japan, the U.S., and the Indo-Pacific region.

**We would be honored to have you participate in J-CPAC 2018. We hope you will be able to join us.**

Sincerely,

  
Jikido "Jay" Aeiba, Chairman  
Japanese Conservative Union

  
Matt Schlapp, Chairman  
American Conservative Union Foundation



## [EXTERNAL] Fw: Invitation to speak at ACUF conference

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**From:** Matt Schlapp <mschlapp@conservative.org>  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** Carin Walters <cwalters@conservative.org>  
**Date:** Fri, 18 Jan 2019 17:53:22 -0500  
**Attachments:** Lighthizer Invite.pdf (57.7 kB)

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Abigail,

I wanted to make sure you saw the invitation for Amb. Lighthizer to speak at our annual conference. The invitation is attached. We hope had can make it!

Matt

**From:** Matt Schlapp  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 20, 2018 1:15 PM  
**To:** abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov  
**Cc:** Carin Walters  
**Subject:** Invitation to speak at ACUF conference

Abigail,

I wanted to invite Ambassador Lighthizer to speak at our annual conference, taking place Feb 28-March 2. The invitation is attached and includes more details.

If you have any questions please reach out to Carin Walters at [cwalters@conservative.org](mailto:cwalters@conservative.org).

We hope he can participate!

Matt



THE  
AMERICAN  
CONSERVATIVE  
UNION  
FOUNDATION

Matt Schlapp  
*Chairman, ACU*

Daniel Schneider  
*Executive Director*

Executive Committee  
Millie Hallow  
Van D. Hipp, Jr.  
Kimberly Bellissimo

Distinguished Founders  
William F. Buckley, Jr.  
Frank S. Meyer  
William A. Rusher  
Katharine St. George

December 10, 2018

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer  
The White House  
1440 New York Avenue NW  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

We are writing to invite you to present at our annual conference, February 28-March 2, 2019.

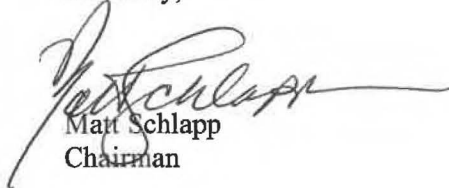
We are happy to work with your staff to determine a particular date and time that works best with your schedule. Total attendance for our conference averages around 10,000 people. Numerous officials from the Executive and Legislative branches of government appear in their official capacity every year.

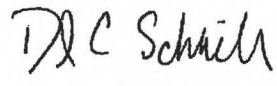
Of course, this is a 501(C)(3) educational conference, so speakers must refrain from engaging in any electioneering, endorsing of candidates or other party-related politicking.

With the digital world changing so rapidly, with our international alliances shifting significantly and cultural norms being questioned daily, it is important for all Americans to better understand what our government intends to do to protect our individual and national sovereignty.

Your voice is an important one and we hope that you will consider speaking. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me, or my staff, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Matt Schlapp  
Chairman

  
Dan Schneider  
Executive Director

American Conservative Union Foundation  
201 N. Union Street, Suite 370 Alexandria, VA 22314  
P: (202) 347-9388 F: (202) 347-9389 ACU@conservative.org  
acufoundation.conservative.org Twitter.com/acufoundation Facebook.com/theacuf

## [EXTERNAL] International CPACs

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**From:** Matt Schlapp <mschlapp@conservative.org>  
**To:** "Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR" <abigail.r.bacak@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** Carin Walters <cwalters@conservative.org>  
**Date:** Wed, 03 Apr 2019 18:12:08 -0400

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Abigail,

At the heart of the battle between the Left and the Right is how we define American exceptionalism. CPAC 2019 focused on this question and reminded all Americans what makes America great. In all, we had over 350 speakers and 19,000 attendees across CPAC's four stages.

We also had more attendees and press coverage from foreign countries than ever before. This may explain why the demand for ACU to hold international CPACs is growing exponentially. We will soon host our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual CPAC in Japan and launch our inaugural CPAC in Australia. **We are writing to invite Amb. Lighthizer to have a role at either of these international CPACs.**

Australia CPAC will take place in Sydney on August 9-10. Japanese CPAC will take place again in Tokyo on August 31-September 1.

These two CPACs are scheduled for August to increase the likelihood that executive and legislative branch officials can attend. Consistent with relevant ethics rules, we also thought the timing would provide American speakers an opportunity to include family members.

Because of the economic and foreign policy questions to be addressed at these conferences, we know that he would be a strong contributor. White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and other executive branch officials have spoken in their official capacities at our international CPACs. Since these are 501(c)(3) educational conferences, speakers may appear in their official capacities.

Carin, our CPAC and Events Director, is copied to this email and can provide more details for either of these opportunities. We hope you will be able to join us.

Sincerely,

Matt



## RE: ACU Book Launch Party May 16

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**From:** "Dorval, Haley M. EOP/USTR" (b) (6)  
:  
**To:** mschlapp@conservative.org  
**Cc:** lschneider@conservative.org, mdefosse@conservative.org  
**Date:** Mon, 13 May 2019 12:49:24 -0400

Hi Matt,

Thank you for the kind invite for Ambassador Lighthizer to attend the Reagan Book Launch Party this Thursday. Unfortunately, the Ambassador is unable to attend due to previous commitments. Please accept his regrets and best wishes for a successful event.

Thanks again,

Haley Dorval  
Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
Executive Office of the President  
o. 202.395.9416 | c. (b) (6)

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**From:** Matt Schlapp <MSchlapp@conservative.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 8, 2019 3:26 PM  
**To:** Bacak, Abigail R. EOP/USTR <Abigail.R.Bacak@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** Luke Schneider <lschneider@conservative.org>; Monica DeFosse <mdefosse@conservative.org>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ACU Book Launch Party May 16

Abigail,

ACU put together a great book about Reagan at CPAC. It is the first book to include all 13 of Reagan's speeches at CPAC, and even includes commentary on the speeches from prominent conservatives like Vice President Pence, Congressman Mark Meadows and Ben Shapiro.

We are having a book launch party on May 16 at the Madison Hotel in Washington, DC and I hope Ambassador Lighthizer will be able to join us. Please email Monica DeFosse at [mdefosse@conservative.org](mailto:mdefosse@conservative.org) to RSVP.



THE  
AMERICAN  
CONSERVATIVE  
UNION

Please Join Us For A  
**Book Launch Party**

Celebrating

***Reagan at CPAC***

*The Words That Continue to Inspire a Revolution*

Hosted by

Matt Schlapp, ACU Chairman  
Larry & Laurie Beasley, The Washington Times  
Kimberly Bellissimo & Terry Davis  
Ron Christle  
Alan Gottlieb & Julianne Versnel  
Mille & Ralph Hallow  
Mike Rose  
Chris & Holly Turner

Thursday, May 16  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Madison Hotel**  
1177 15th Street, NW  
Washington, DC

Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres

RSVP by May 13  
to Monica DeFosse at [mdefosse@conservative.org](mailto:mdefosse@conservative.org)

Non-transferable